

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 55984

Title: VULNERABILITÉS URBAINES ET STRATÉGIES DE RÉSILIENCE COMMUNAUTAIRE DANS LES QUARTIERS INFORMELS : LE CAS DE GESCO Á ABIDJAN (CÔTE D'IVOIRE)

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓,		
Techn. Quality		✓,		
Clarity	✓,			
Significance	✓,			

Reviewer Name: Dr Abdul Haseeb Mir

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The manuscript entitled “VULNERABILITÉS URBAINES ET STRATÉGIES DE RÉSILIENCE COMMUNAUTAIRE DANS LES QUARTIERS INFORMELS : LE CAS DE GESCO Á ABIDJAN (CÔTE D'IVOIRE)” presents a detailed and empirically grounded analysis of environmental vulnerabilities and locally developed resilience strategies in one of Abidjan's major informal urban neighborhoods. The study addresses a highly relevant theme within urban studies, human geography, and development planning, particularly in the context of rapidly urbanizing African metropolises facing climate-related risks and governance constraints

One of the major strengths of the article lies in its strong empirical foundation. The author adopts a mixed-methods approach combining documentary analysis, household surveys, direct observation, semi-structured interviews, and cartographic analysis. The use of a reasoned sample of 260 household heads across thirteen sectors of Gesco provides a solid basis for capturing spatially differentiated vulnerabilities and localized coping mechanisms. The integration of statistical data, thematic qualitative analysis, maps, tables, and photographic evidence significantly enhances the credibility and richness of the findings, and demonstrates methodological rigor appropriate for an academic journal.

The analysis of urban vulnerabilities is particularly convincing. The manuscript clearly shows how geomorphological constraints, rapid and unplanned urban densification, inadequate infrastructure, and

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

environmentally harmful practices interact to intensify exposure to flooding, erosion, landslides, and health risks. The discussion linking environmental degradation to public health outcomes—especially the high prevalence of malaria, typhoid fever, and diarrheal diseases—is well supported by empirical data and aligns with broader literature on urban environmental health in the Global South. The spatial differentiation of risks across valleys, marshlands, and densely built areas is analytically strong and contributes to a nuanced understanding of intra-urban inequalities.

Equally valuable is the examination of community-based resilience strategies. The manuscript avoids portraying residents merely as passive victims and instead highlights their agency through practices such as vegetation planting, informal drainage systems, sandbagging, adaptive housing materials, and collective mobilization. These findings contribute meaningfully to debates on urban resilience by illustrating how informal and low-cost strategies can partially mitigate environmental risks in contexts of limited state intervention. The discussion rightly acknowledges, however, the structural limits of these informal strategies and the need for institutional support to ensure long-term sustainability.

The section on perspectives for sustainable and resilient urban development is another strong component of the paper. The emphasis on integrated urban restructuring, diversification of densification forms, and articulation between community initiatives and public policies provides a constructive policy-oriented dimension. The discussion of ongoing and planned interventions, including restructuring projects and infrastructure investments, situates the Gesco case within broader metropolitan dynamics and enhances the manuscript's relevance for urban planners and policymakers.

Despite these considerable strengths, the manuscript would benefit from minor revisions before publication. While the conceptual framework is clearly informed by notions of urban vulnerability, resilience, and sustainable development, these concepts could be more explicitly defined and theoretically positioned in the introductory section to strengthen analytical clarity. In addition, certain sections are lengthy and occasionally repetitive, particularly where empirical description overlaps with discussion; modest tightening of language would improve readability without compromising substance. Minor stylistic and grammatical corrections are also recommended to ensure fluency in the English version and to meet international publication standards.

Overall, the manuscript represents a substantial and original contribution to the literature on informal settlements, urban environmental vulnerability, and community resilience in African cities. Its empirical

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

REVIEWER'S REPORT

depth, methodological rigor, and policy relevance outweigh the minor issues identified. Subject to minor revisions focused on conceptual clarification, stylistic refinement, and concision, the article is suitable for publication.

Recommendation: Accepted for publication with minor revisions.